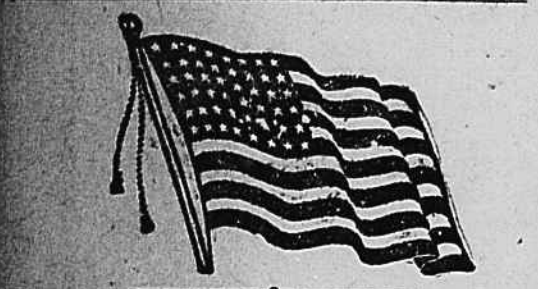


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THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 20, 1917.



STOP WASTING WATER!

THERE is ample justification for the indignation which is felt at City hall over the waste of water at night in this city. It is a foolish proceeding from a practical point of view, and it is not honest.
With coal bills mounting at the pumping station to the point where they threaten to total two thousand dollars for the current month the Water department would be quite justified in taking drastic steps to stop the waste, but they are embarrassed by the fact that it is almost impossible to act against the offenders without running the risk of doing harm to citizens who are in no wise to blame for the deplorable conditions.
Perhaps the best thing they could do would be to single out a few people who wilfully waste water and see what can be done about making them pay good stiff fines. The City Commissioners certainly would have the support of that portion of the public whose good opinion is worth while in such a move.

ONE WAY TO DO YOUR BIT.

THERE is a thought in the appeals to mine workers sent out yesterday by Bishop Donahue and the officers of the United Mine Workers that is good enough to serve for ordinary days as well as holidays.
"Patriotic duty demands that the mines be kept running," is the way the miners' officials put it, and the statement is not overdrawn. The success of the drive which we all hope will put an end to the war next summer may depend upon the amount of coal that is produced this winter.
That being true no better way could be found for men in the mining regions to do their bit than to help all they can to keep production up, not only during the coming holidays but throughout all the weeks that are to follow during which the demand for coal will be at the peak.

TARIFF BACKFIRE.

A GOOD deal of comment was created some months ago because of the large flow of gold which started from this country to Japan to cover trade balances which that country held against us largely as a result of a tariff law which gave, and still gives, Japan such a free hand in our market. It will be remembered that Secretary McAdoo gave nervous and put a ban on gold exports from this country, although the Democrats have long scoffed at favorable trade balance.
With these two facts in mind it is interesting to scan a trade report from Tokio which says that Japanese trade continues to suffer somewhat because "the ban on exports of gold from America hampers the importation of raw cotton from India and reduces Japan's cotton exports." This decline in imports of raw cotton from India appears to be due to the difficulty of settling Indian accounts. "As soon as the inflow of gold from America was threatened," says the report, "the Japanese exchange banks began to refuse drafts on Indian cotton bills and the mills were obliged to look to America for cotton or go without." And again, "The inflow of gold boomed Japan's cotton manufacturers at home and her export to China and India."
Here is a splendid illustration of the back-fire effect of our Democratic tariff law. The trade balances accrued by Japan in the American market have been used to develop an industry which has materially weakened the hold which we had on the Far Eastern market for cotton goods.

RUFF STUFF
It begins to look as if the present gas row will not be a mere case of hot air.
Wouldn't it be funny if the gas companies would act just like Davy Crockett's coon?
And come right down when they find out we mean to shoot?
Poker is not the only game in which bluff is useful.
Bluff is about all there is to many public service corporations.
And some of them are run by guys who have broad saffron streaks down their backs.
Lamping a report that Clarksburg cops are making about 50 per cent. fewer arrests than they used to the Parkersburg Sentinel says it is glad to learn they are emulating Parkersburg.
Wrong again; they are copying after Fairmont where it is had form to pinch any one but a bootlegger who has no friends.
Rather drastic, is it not?

The exigencies of war, it is true, have temporarily interrupted this competition of a double aspect, but an embargo on gold cannot so handily be available in time of peace.
During the fiscal year ended last June our imports of Japanese goods totaled \$208,000,000, an increase of 130 per cent over the last year of Republican protection—\$91,000,000. Our 1917 imports from Japan exceeded those which formerly we recorded from Germany, our keenest commercial competitor, prior to the war; they were not far behind our pre-war imports from the United Kingdom. And Japanese production costs are far below those of Europe. For the past three fiscal years our total trade with Japan has aggregated over \$700,000,000, of which \$455,000,000 consisted of imports. After a time Japan began to call for payments of her trade balances against us, and during 1916 we shipped her \$26,000,000, while during the eight months period ended last August she drew on us for \$142,000,000 in gold.
In the meantime, as the figures of the Department show and the reports from all our Far Eastern consuls corroborate, Japan has been running the United States out of the market for cotton goods. It is a grand little game, this tariff-for-less-than-revenue policy—if we don't weaken.

OMINOUS WHEAT REPORT.

REALLY ominous is the prospect revealed by the December report on winter wheat which shows the poorest December condition on record for an acreage only slightly in excess of that planted last year. On the basis of such a report the billion bushel crop which it was estimated is essential for next year is out of the question. Only a few Americans have taken talk of war bread for this country seriously, but such a condition may bring us face to face with the actuality before many weeks have passed.

The most disappointing feature of the report is the slight gain in acreage after the great effort which was made last fall to impress upon wheat growers the necessity for extending themselves to the utmost. The Agricultural department says that the failure to reach the acreage which it deemed necessary for winter wheat seeding was not due to the intention of the farmers, but to adverse natural conditions which prevented putting out the full acreage desired. Inasmuch as winter wheat is not grown in the district where the farmers were in almost open revolt against the government because of the price fixing policy perhaps this ought to be taken at its face value, but coming on top of the failure of the farmers to respond to the calls of the government in both of the Liberty bond campaigns, the average man will have a hard time convincing himself that the agricultural class of the country has yet awakened either to the seriousness of the war or its duty to the Republic at this critical time.
The farmer is a privileged character in this country. His interests are protected and he is favored in the halls of Congress and by the state legislatures. It is high time he began to show by works that he appreciates this. The industries, mining of all kinds, forestry, transportation, shipping, commerce, all have had to overcome shortage of labor and the other handicaps incident to the war, and if agriculture wants to retain the good opinion of posterity it must show the stuff that it is made of.

If the General Guillemet who has been chosen as the successor of General Sarraill, commander of the Allied armies at Saloniki, is the same Guillemet who was in command of the French forces at Verdun during the greater part of this year, the change may presage some important military developments in that part of the world. A good stiff offensive in Macedonia at a time when the Central powers are exerting practically every ounce of their strength on the West front would be equivalent to an offset for the collapse of Russia and Rumania.

Richard W. Hale, counsel for the negro Johnson at Boston, who charges that West Virginia and the Federal officials in this state have entered into a conspiracy to bring Johnson back here, seems to have quite as poor an opinion of us and our idea of justice as does the governor of Massachusetts.

There is a world of comfort in the general agreement that after we did get started making small arms and machine guns for the American army the weapons we produce are the best in the world. When we get going right we will be able to turn them out at a rate which will make new records. In the meantime, however, it should be the earnest aim of the investigating committee to get to the bottom of the causes for delay and make it plain to the arm chair warriors of the War department and the army that they cannot escape public censure when they do not size up to their jobs.

Plans are already being made, it is announced, to increase the acreage of spring wheat in an effort to offset the bad winter wheat situation. Something worth while might be done along this line and it is imperative that the effort be made, but the past two springs have been decidedly unfavorable to spring wheat seeding, and if there is anything in the old superstition about the rule of three the next one will too.

Fighting of the most determined character continues to characterize the Austro-German campaign in Italy, and there is evidence that it is being carried on with comparatively fresh troops. Can it be that the much advertised prospective offensive on the West front was simply a ruse to prevent the Allies from sending further reinforcements to Italy?

Editorial Comment on Current Subjects
WEST VIRGINIA STEERS BRING \$15.50 AT STOCK SHOW SALE.
From the Chicago Live Stock World.
West Virginia is fast coming to the fore in the production of cattle and hogs. Cattle production, especially, is making much progress, and the grade of the cattle produced in that state compares favorably with the cattle produced in the corn belt, although it takes longer to make cattle, due to the fact that cattle are grazed on luxuriant blue grass and fed during the winter periods.
Yesterday a load of typical West Virginia cattle sold at the Yards for \$15.50. There were 14 cattle and averaged 1,550 pounds. These cattle were not especially prepared for the show, but a short time ago Howard Gore, of Clarksburg, one of the big men in agriculture in that state, decided that it would be interesting to show what the state is going in the way of cattle production.
The cattle were shipped in time to be entered in the carlot division of the show, but railroad delays caused them to arrive here late. The cattle were sold yesterday after the carlot

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE
(BY CONDO)
THERE'S THE GUTTER, YOU FILTHY SLOB!! THAT'S THE PROPER PLACE TO PUT YOUR CHEWED GUM—NOT UNDER THE EDGE OF A CHAIR!!
TAURANT

cattle had been disposed of. In view of the fact that cattle fed grain for a whole year, and good enough to classify in the show and win prizes brought only \$16.00, the price brought by the West Virginia cattle is significant.
And these cattle did not possess the bloom they did a month or ten weeks ago, due to the cold weather in West Virginia. The additional change of climate in coming to Chicago helped to take the "feather" off the cattle, so they did not show up in their best form.
Hundreds of farmers in West Virginia are building silos, Mr. Gore says this will be a big boost to cattle production, because it will enable the farmers to produce two crops of steers—one on grass and another during the winter on silage.
Hog production, too, is increasing rapidly, and the inauguration of pig clubs throughout the state has started the boys and girls in the pork business. The success of the youngsters has won many farmers over to making pork.
Mr. Gore said that the cattle which were sold yesterday were produced by several men in Jackson county and were typical cattle of the state where good breeding herds are maintained. The quality of the stuff raised in that state, he said, was showing improvement, due to the use of better sides, crossed on native cows.
He is a member of the International Live Stock Exposition Association, and says these cattle were brought here merely to show the corn belt folks what progress West Virginia is making in the cattle business. He wishes to express his appreciation for the treatment accorded West Virginia visitors by the show management and the Stock Yards people.
Hereford, Angus, Shorthorn and Durham breeding cattle are used in that state, and he says where proper care is given the stock equally good results are obtained by the farmers.
"By choosing the right individual animals," said Mr. Gore, "we have been able to get the best results. The use of pure bred sires on our native cows have produced fine calves. Silos are being built throughout the state, and this will enable farmers to produce two crops of cattle, one on grass and another on silage, during the winter."
The change of climate hurt these cattle. They possessed excellent bloom in October, before the cold weather came on us down there. And in view of the fact that these cattle were made on grass alone, having no grain, it shows what our blue grass is capable of in the way of beef making.
Packers and leading feeders of the corn belt had only words of praise for the cattle which were sold yesterday. The quality and condition of the stuff, they said, amazed them.
Commissioner of Agriculture Stewart sent the foregoing clipping to the newspapers of the state with the following note attached:
These steers Mr. Gore picked out of a number of cattle which he is buying and shipping to dealers in the large markets from West Virginia. Your commissioner saw a telegram to him in which he was offered \$16.00 a hundred for these cattle at Clarksburg, but he had gathered them to take to Chicago in order to impress the market people there of the great possibilities of West Virginia for grass cattle. While he did this at some loss, it was an eye opener to the market and will result in impressing upon the owners of lands and cattle raisers in West Virginia the importance of devoting more attention to the production of that select type of cattle which Mr. Gore proves can be produced in West Virginia on blue grass.
Mr. Gore is president of the West Virginia Live Stock Association and is a real live wire in the live stock industry. The annual meeting of this association will be held in Morgantown January 7th and 8th next. Live stock men and land owners of the state would do well to attend these meetings and hear the excellent addresses to be given on live stock production. This association is supported in every way possible by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture and lecturers of state and national reputation provided at its expense for these meetings, also its publications are taken care of by this department.

What People Say and Some Side Remarks

Attorney W. M. Hess, of Mannington, says he gives most of his time just now to "Uncle Sam." He was on the legal advisory board Tuesday, but has contributed towards the war every day this week. He says: "My best time is 12 minutes, but it takes a full hour for some of them."
A. J. Hays, of Mannington, has been wearing white hats since he visited England sixteen years ago. He saw a horseman over there wearing one and it caught his fancy. He explains: "I'm a horseman and somehow

See Your Dollars Pile up for Christmas
Here's the Way to Get Them
Join Our
Christmas Savings Club
We are ready now for the enrollment of members. Regular date for starting the club is Dec. 17th. It offers an exceptional opportunity for you to accumulate a fund for Christmas or other uses.
IT'S FREE! • NO FEES! NO FINES! NOTHING TO LOSE!
Here's the Plan Come and tell us what class you want to join (you may join as many classes as you wish) and pay the first weeks' amount. We will give you a patented deposit bank card and full instructions. Then each week you pay in the proper amount for the required number of weeks and receive a check before Christmas for the amount you have saved.
Our Christmas Savings Club **SYSTEMATIZES YOUR SAVINGS.** It's a cooperative plan. "In union there is strength." "Many hands make light work." So with this club. You get the benefit of a great organization enjoying all the advantages of the most approved banking system.
See How Your Savings Grow
The 1c class will amount to \$12.75
The 2c class will amount to \$25.50
The 5c class will amount to \$63.75
The 10c class will amount to \$127.05
We have the above classes in reducing amounts; also the 10c, 25c, 50c, \$1.00 and \$2.00 straight weekly payment classes.
You May Join Now
You may join as many classes as you wish.
If for any reason you should not keep up your payments **YOU WILL GET BACK EVERY CENT PAID IN.** You may pay in advance if you wish. **JOIN THIS CLUB YOURSELF.** Get your family and friends to join also. **COME TO THE BANK AND LET US EXPLAIN ANYTHING YOU WISH TO KNOW.** This is the **BEST** way. Get the saving habit—it's a good one.
The Peoples National Bank OF FAIRMONT

the white hat tells it."
Mr. Hays is often taken for a government official, United States Marshal Hupp, who died two or three years ago, was a follower of the Hays in hate.
many must be beaten. will be beaten."
Mine Chief Earl A. Henry urges all district mine inspectors to use every influence with miners and laborers to increase the production of coal, point out that:
"Coal is an important factor in the war, being used in the manufacture of war munitions, the running of trains and vessels and for manufacture and domestic use."
A Mannington woman who won't have her name mentioned, springs this:
"Woma's faults are many. Man's are but two—everything he says and everything he does."
Christmas Program at Normal School
A Christmas program of unusually attractive features was carried out this afternoon beginning at two o'clock at the Normal school. The program consisted mainly of Christmas carols and songs and was in charge of the Y. W. C. A. of the Normal. The stage in the auditorium was attractively decorated in Christmas greens, a beautifully decorated tree occupying the centre of the stage. Several addresses were made to the students. Dr. H. G. Stoetzer, pastor of the Presbyterian church, delivered the principal address.
The Normal school will close at noon tomorrow for the Christmas vacation and will resume work on January 3.
Xmas Slippers
For men like these in leather \$1.25 to \$2.50.
Made of felt in colors \$1.50 to \$1.75
Comfort slippers for women, like these and other styles in felt \$1.25 to \$1.85
Children's Xmas slippers like these and other styles in leather and felt. 85c to \$1.85.
Buy footwear as presents this year. They will make a most practical gift.
Shurtleff & Welton
Open Evenings Until after Xmas

See Your Dollars Pile up for Christmas
Here's the Way to Get Them
Join Our
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Here's the Plan Come and tell us what class you want to join (you may join as many classes as you wish) and pay the first weeks' amount. We will give you a patented deposit bank card and full instructions. Then each week you pay in the proper amount for the required number of weeks and receive a check before Christmas for the amount you have saved.
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